CLAIMS

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is as follows:

1. A method for collaborative Web browsing, comprising the steps of:

defining a collaboration toolbar and displaying the collaboration toolbar on a user interface (UI), the collaboration toolbar including a user UI components to logon/logoff, manage collaboration spaces, list related collaboration spaces, and list related links;

defining a collaboration co-browser which is displayed on the UI;

monitoring a user's browsing activity; and

mining browsed content to determine page, topic or meta data intent.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein upon monitoring the user's browsing activity, the step of mining browsed content is performed to determine an appropriate set of related collaboration elements of an appropriately related collaboration space to the browsed content.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein upon mining browsed content, the step of monitoring browsing activity populates the collaboration toolbar with the appropriately related collaboration elements.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein prior to the step of monitoring, further comprising the steps of:

defining collaboration spaces; and

associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents, topics and meta data.

1   5. The method of claim 1, wherein upon user selection of an appropriately
2   related collaboration space from the toolbar, further comprising the step of
3   rendering by the collaboration co-browser a collaboration space related to
4   browser context.

1   6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of allowing a user to
2   instantiate collaboration operations from the collaboration co-browser.

1   7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of augmenting by the
2   collaboration co-browser a Web browser and displaying collaboration
3   elements of an appropriate collaboration space corresponding to the user's
4   monitored browsing activity.

1   8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2   defining collaboration spaces;
3   associating collaboration spaces with one or more Web documents,
4   topics and meta data; and
5   rendering by the collaboration co-browser a collaboration space related
6   to browser context.

1   9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of augmenting by the
2   collaboration co-browser a Web browser and displaying collaboration
3   elements of the rendered collaboration space corresponding to the user's
4   monitored browsing activity.

1   10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of allowing a user to
2   instantiate collaboration operations from the collaboration co-browser.

1   11. A system for collaborative Web browsing, comprising:

2   a collaboration toolbar component which generates a collaboration

3   toolbar display on a user interface (UI), the collaboration toolbar including a

4   user logon/logoff toggle button, buttons to manage and configure

5   collaboration spaces, a list box of related collaboration spaces, and a list box

6   of related links;

7   a collaboration co-browser component which generates a collaboration

8   co-browser display on the UI when a user logons on;

9   a monitor that observes a user's browsing activity, the collaboration

10 co-browser component responding to the monitor and displaying collaboration

11 elements of an appropriate collaboration space; and

12   a mining component to mine the monitored browser content.

1   12. The system of claim 11, further comprising a collaboration manager that

2   maintains a life cycle of collaboration spaces.

1   13. The system of claim 11, further comprising one or more collaboration

2   servers that implement various modalities of collaboration operations.

1   14. The system of claim 11, wherein upon monitoring the browsing activity by

2   the monitor, the mining component mines the browsed content to determine

3   an appropriate set of related collaboration elements of an appropriately related

4   collaboration space to the browsed content.

1   15. The system of claim 14, wherein upon mining the browsed content by the

2   mining component, the monitored browsing activity populates the

3   collaboration toolbar component with appropriately related collaboration

4   elements.

1   16. The system of claim 11, wherein the collaboration co-browser component

2   renders a collaboration space related to browser context.

1   17. The system of claim 11, wherein collaboration operations are instantiated

2   from the collaboration co-browser.